

E

458

2

.C94

Cromelien, Rowland.

Cromelien on the  
great American rebellion  
tri-party war of 1861 and  
1862.

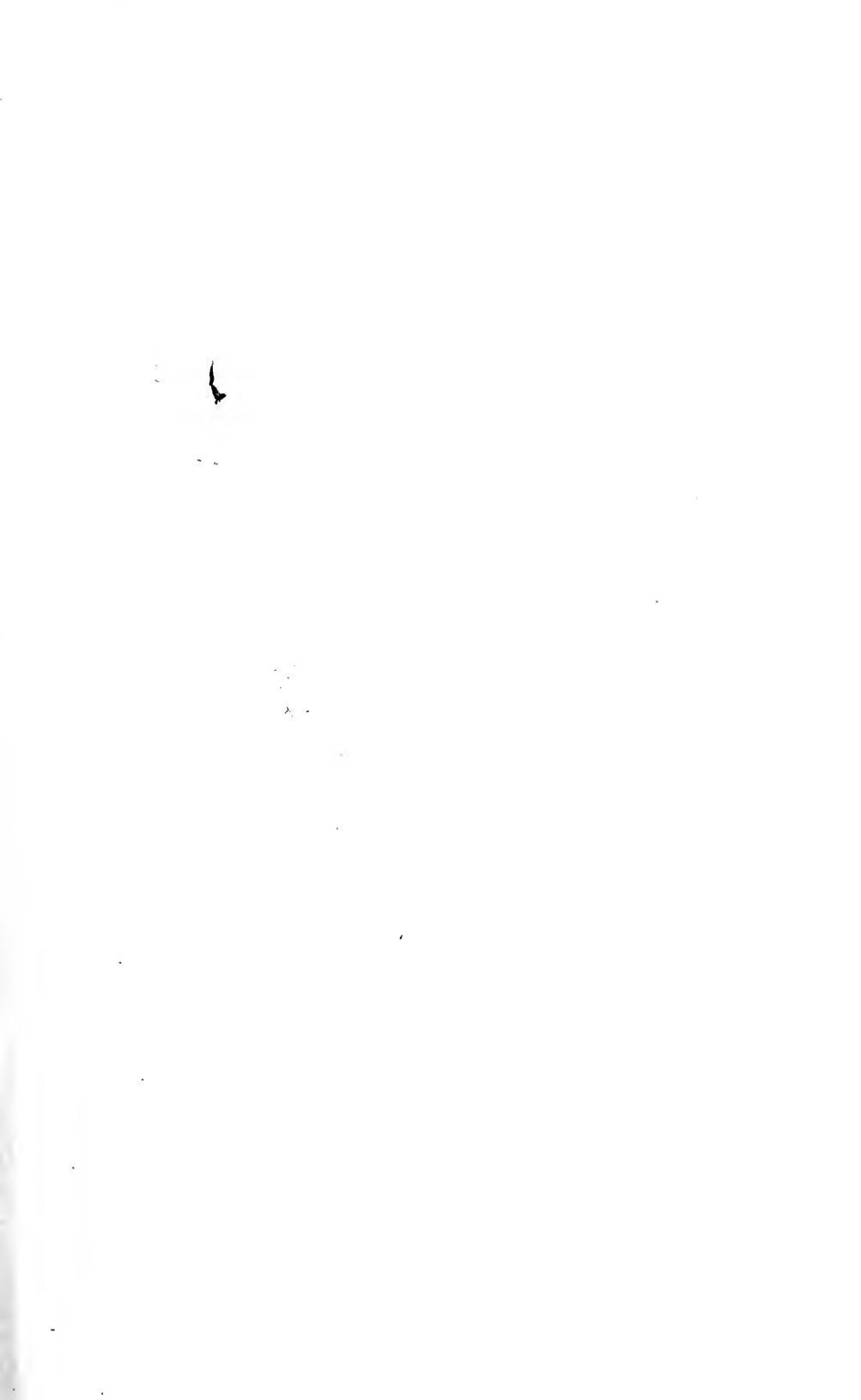
1862.



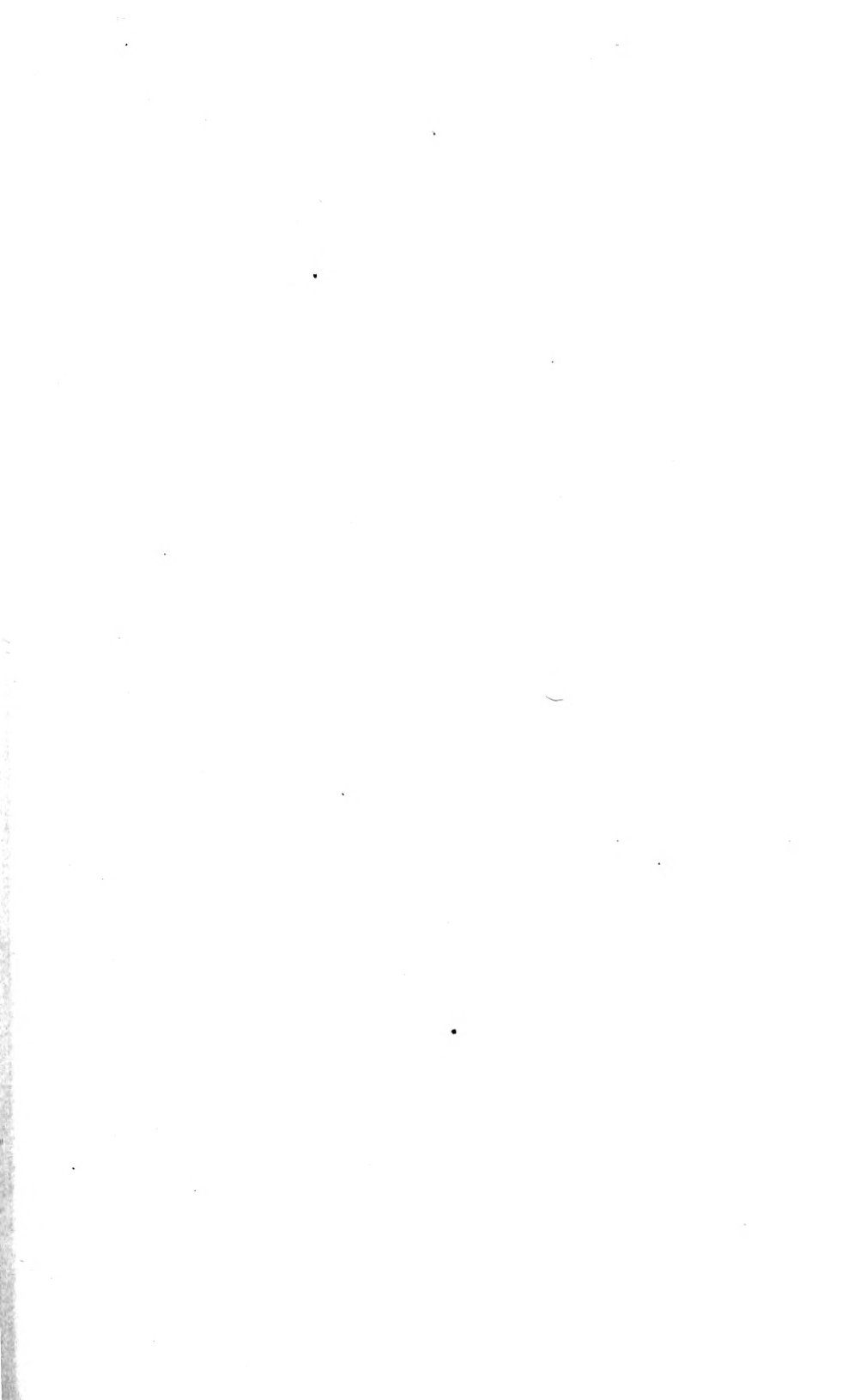


Class E458

Book 2 C9









*July 6-62*

CROMELIEN

ON THE GREAT

AMERICAN REBELLION

TRI-PARTY WAR

OF

*Cromelien's*

1861 and 1862.

---

Copyright secured, by R. CROMELIEN, and entered according to law of Congress.

---

WASHINGTON:

1862.

*S. S. J.*

# GREAT REBELLION TRI-PARTY WAR!

**LOOK, REFER, and REFLECT back to the past many YEARS, and CONTRAST with 1861.**

The many BRILLIANT VICTORIES achieved by the *no second* MILITARY CHIEFTAIN IN THE WORLD, for whom HISTORY has renowned a reputation in the name of WINFIELD SCOTT, late MAJOR GENERAL of the UNITED STATES ARMY, as no parallel a FIRST CLASS ENGINEER for such purposes.

Truly was it said that the MONARCHS OF THE OLD WORLD envied our veteran General, and unhesitatingly pronounced him the FIRST MILITARY SCIENTIFIC SOLDIER THEN IN THE LAND, especially after the Successful Campaign at VERA CRUZ, on the CASTLE OF SAN JUAN DE ULUA, &c. To every American heart, and those of this adopted hemisphere, the name of this HERO vibrated in all their ARTERIES as a PILLAR of ROCK for *strength*, and IMPENETRABLE for the BULWARK of our NATIONAL DEFENCES. Such was my feeling, opinion, and sentiment that in him, by our side, we feared not the COMBINATION OF ALL THE WORLD. BUT WHAT HAS BEEN the result of his experience in an UNHOLY war, forced upon us for the balance of power? Certainly it will not be said that he is in his dotage, for he has been the constant counsel of this war with this Administration from its beginning. THEREFORE IT MUST BE SOMETHING ELSE. Can it possibly be that we have been mistaken in our veteran AMERICAN GENERAL, or deceived in his LOYALTY? I WOULD SAY—NO! but that there is a screw loose somewhere in its general character, admits, in my humble opinion, of little doubt. Either INTEREST, SOUTHERN SYMPATHIZING FOR OR AGAINST SLAVERY, "NATIVE STATE," LUKEWARM TO THE CAUSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION, OR IMBECILITY OF THE GROSSEST KIND, must be concluded on as self-manifest, for the hereafter following reasons and explanations:

HOW INTERESTING *it is to see the* PHOTOGRAPH PICTURES of the SAGE OF LUNDY'S LANE, with Charts, and surrounded by all his other GENERALS IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED! ITS ELECTRIC EFFECT to the many produced nothing else but confidence in the hero for prompt result in terminating the war. Every American heart was believed to be in the cause, pouring in its strength of FIRST CALL THREE MONTHS' MEN, which here need not be commented upon, but sufficient was proven by the result of the opening Campaign and Battles to show that its main FIRST-CLASS GENERALS and officers were SYMPATHIZERS with the SESESH PRINCIPLES, while OUR PRIVATES WERE AS BRAVE AS STEEL, but sacrificed.

AFTER THE FALL OF FORT SUMPTER I addressed a letter of date 31st May, 1861, to GENERAL SCOTT, (see letter B, as referred to by letter A,) recommending to him practicable means for VIRGINIA COAST DEFENCE, but the said letter and its plan, at THAT TIME, received no attention. Our disasters were, nevertheless, from referred cause, evidently great; still our brave men of the Union never faltered, but on call for 500,000 MORE MEN, they soon presented themselves to defend, with THEIR LIVES, the STARS and STRIPES as the ONE UNION, under ONLY ONE CONSTITUTION. During which time what begins to evince itself? We begin to hear reports after reports that the REBELS ARE ERECTING BATTERIES on the Potomac, and continuing doing



so, UNINTERRUPTED by the celebrated General, until nearly the WHOLE RIVER AND BAYS were made (AND ALL THE WAY TO RICHMOND) equal to an IRON-BOUND SHORE of FORTIFICATIONS, HE SEATED ON HIS VELVET-CUSHIONED CHAIR, with LOCKED ARMS, LOOKING ON LIKE A SPECTATOR IN VENICE, without making or even an attempt to check it. The DAILY BULLETINS of the VARIOUS JOURNALS kept the mind of the people staring at each other why this was so openly and silently tolerated. Finally it was announced that said valuable stream, for transportation use, was unsafe for navigation. THIS CONTINUANCE BEGUN TO BE THE MARK OF SEVERE CRITICISM for the several LEADING NEWSPAPERS, and of its reporters, until it was openly expressed by many that DOUBT EXISTED as to the GENERAL'S LOYALTY, on which much was said, serious doubts expressed, AND HARSH WAS THE TYPE EXPOUNDED on him, for it was HARDLY REASONABLE TO BELIEVE, and to satisfy our Union people, THAT SO SAGACIOUS A GENERAL AND ENGINEER would allow an ENEMY such unlimited privilege, when he had it at his command and power to attempt, or to make the attempt, to stop it. Thus by him it must have been considered unimportant, while the people saw different, AND ON HIM THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY LAYS FOR THE DISASTERS.

The war was progressing. It was announced that the said General Winfield Scott would take the COMMAND IN PERSON on the Battle Fields to Richmond; that his TRAVELING TENTS and BAGGAGE TRAIN were getting ready and made for such purpose. Such had a great good effect on our constituents and the main army, but WHERE DID THE GENERAL EVER TAKE COMMAND? Certainly not when our VALUABLE NAVIGABLE STREAMS on this VIRGINIA COAST, where nearly GUN closed upon us! Then the Hero of Battles becomes SERIOUSLY INDISPOSED to take command of the FIELD IN PERSON, and as many aspirants were in the field whose names for such opening were mentioned for said VALUABLE AND HONORABLE POSITION—that was soon after GENERAL McCLELLAN'S WESTERN VIRGINIA SUCCESSES—that our veteran old hero QUICKLY recommends and APPOINTS him as the suitable and only FIT AND RELIABLE MILITARY CHIEFTAIN TO TAKE COMMAND OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, and which met the CORDIAL APPROVAL of the VOICES of our people, but disappointed many others who claimed to be more entitled. Thus for a while he was Chief in command—as General of the whole army of the United States—the said WINFIELD SCOTT being RECOMMENDED, by MEDICAL ADVISERS, to a TOUR TO EUROPE for his CURES. (I believe we have, and had at that time, as valuable medical aid in this country as elsewhere.) ESPECIALLY at a time when EVERY TRUE AMERICAN MIND, JUDGMENT, OR OPINION might be wanted on the FIELDS OF BATTLE, while our military campaigns were progressing, “INSTEAD OF BEING AWAY.” In more than ONE CONVERSATIONAL DEBATE that was had by me on all this absorbing topic, I have been replied that SCOTLAND was sold FOR A GROT, and IRELAND for a FARTHING a MAN to ENGLAND; that our ONCE HAPPY and *great* COUNTRY, from its present STATE of DIFFERENT POLITICAL INTERESTS, may also have been sold or transferred without our knowing it, as the LOVE OF PECULATION, SPECULATION, PROCRASTINATION, and FRAUDS, CONNECTED with HEAVY CONTRACTS for the making of money out of it that has developed itself thus far since the commencement of the war, and which is said to be enormous; HOWEVER, IF EVEN TRUE, OR IN PART, “I DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH DOCTRINE AS IN THE BREST OF AMERICANS.” Nevertheless, BRIGADIER GENERAL WILCOX's responsible speech, on the 18th instant, has a good deal of just cause for his remarks, and which I fully endorse. WHY WAS NOT THAT PUBLISHED IN FULL? How can our brave men in the field and Union survive if such corrupt diseases is seated in the breasts of

those who should be our guardians? In that undertaking—"ON TO RICHMOND," there was not to have been, could not have been, and should not have been any such word as "FAIL!" Pleas for EXCUSES in these LATE instances, from so CELEBRATED A YOUNG GENERAL, "IS NOT MY STYLE," and all skill for judgment is now baffled. The said HERO OF OLDEN FAME did sail to Europe, and returned unexpectedly early as A HASTY PLATE OF SOUP EXPEDITION. Perhaps, as I have heard it said, it was for making a permanent investment on the other side—THE SECRET OF THIS IS HARDLY TO BE EVER KNOWN—while others say it was a GOVERNMENT MOVE to head off MASON AND SLIDELL. His sickness was of no long duration, but for enough to accomplish his ends. NO DOUBT, somewhat Gouty, and, from his weight and style of WINE-LIVING, a trip could be good to him as well as to any of us. How much YELLOW MADDER or how little accompanied HIS SHIP IS A QUESTION.

I have heard it repeatedly said, during the winter of the closing blockade of the Potomac, that the CELEBRATED, NOW RETIRED GENERAL, HAD SAND THROWN IN HIS EYES BY THE RAILROAD INTEREST of our adjoining States, and that it was told him that the BLOCKADING of the Potomac was a FARCE, and of NO IMPORTANCE, as we had all THE MAIN ARTERIES OPEN for the army use, ready for the transporting of all the GOVERNMENT'S wants by our RAILROADS; HE, PERHAPS, WAS TRULY DECEIVED in this by DESIGNING MEN. TRUE, INDEED, TO ADVANTAGE, could such effect be brought to bear on the mind of this old General, but his SAGACITY as a PATRIOTIC, ALL-LOVING, LOYAL UNIONIST should have seen and prevented such interruption as was going on the Potomac, and of which he was advised. IF THAT IS THE AMERICAN HEART AND CHARACTER, THEN I AM READY TO ADMIT THAT I AM MISTAKEN IN MY COUNTRY. INDEED HAVE THE RAILROAD INTEREST carried on a profitable harvest, to the cost of our nation, by their accomplishing this scheme of carrying trade, WHILE FOR THE SECESH FEELING HERE and the OLD DOMINION STATE, it accomplished EXACTLY THEIR ENDS, by giving time to PLACE GUNS at all POINTS. Not alone one half of all the cost of its transportation by steamers from BOSTON, NEW YORK, and PHILADELPHIA would have been saved to the people of this Government, but the citizens of the District of Columbia and WASHINGTON CITY would have had much of the NECESSITIES OF LIFE for ONE HALF they had to pay during said time. QUERRY.—It should be properly known how much the Government had to pay to said SOUL-LESS CORPORATIONS for its FREIGHTS AND MILITARY TRAVELLING FARE. This, as I have heard it said, accounts, and has induced the ONCE CELEBRATED HERO OF BATTLES TO RESIGN, with the saying that his ILL HEALTH and ADVANCED AGE, and having now placed his PET in command, that he might live in the SHADES the balance of his days in QUIETUDE.

A CABINET COUNSELLOR, "SIMON," pure may be—of famous financial and Senatorial celebrity as the prompter, whose scheming mind to make money is well known—as the Quaker said, "HONESTLY, if you can, by all means. Soon after he fashionably resigns, to avoid telling tales, and is sent as a servant to KAMSCHATKA. That the heavy Railroad and Iron Interest is colleague with this, my future letters to the *Republican Cabinet Administration* will fully suffice; and read with marked notice and care.

It was often said that the VENERABLE HERO OF BATTLES—a NATIVE OF VIRGINIA'S SACRED SOIL, that he could not battle against it, although his estate in Virginia confiscated and temporary lost, knowing well that hereafter such would be remunerated for, and by such resignation he accomplished the feeling of the leaders of Secesh and the State of his nativity; and now that his successor SLOW PUPIL is in command with the

*flower of an army unequalled, purse and sword*, with the NATION TO BACK HIM, that instead of *on to victory, for the Capital*, RICHMOND, he makes masterly engineering and scientific military safe retreats to ACQUIA CREEK, near WASHINGTON, his starting place with his large remnant of army, that has fought brilliantly when at close quarters, like accidentally, as at a gymnasium, when drawing the claret while sparring with boxing gloves. Thus VIRGINIA IS SO FAR SAVED FROM BEING CONQUERED. It has been a SLAUGHTERING HOUSE TRI-PARTY WAR, or of as a mother's wild goose chase in an eddy. PERHAPS IT WAS NEVER INTENDED then to go into Richmond. For that cause is it not likely that the FOREIGN PRINCES, OFFICERS then in the UNITED STATES SERVICE, returned to EUROPE, they seeing through it? We have a right to draw our own inferences from result. Why were not in any case the SIEGE GUNS ready for operation as the advance picket guard, or other more effective uses, when such a desperate enemy engirdles our army and Union, at important moments, when on to Richmond? Such could have been done, and to-day the VICTORY WOULD HAVE BEEN OURS; but was always too late, or hardly ever got into position for action, except at nearly, and only waiting for the foe to evacuate. From a TRI-PARTY WAR, which I term this, you American loyal Union citizen can expect no better now than RUIN to our INVOLVED NATION, as well as to all of us INDIVIDUALLY, for the REASON of a GOVERNMENT WITHOUT POWER, and want of UNITY and HARMONY on the GREAT AMERICAN QUESTION among many of the Generals and Officers of the whole Army, they being dictated by the different political wire-pullers. This I claim to say, and in my opinion is the ESTABLISHED FACT that, but for the course pursued of toleration in having our POTOMAC, BAYS, AND JAMES RIVER BLOCKADED, even as it was, that our VIRGINIA PENINSULA war, abandonment, and FAILURE, with its great SACRIFICE of LIFE, TIME, and MONEY, is wholly attributable to the GREAT ERROR of one of the most renowned Generals said to be living in this age, and by his neglect of using even moderate activity to prevent such, gave the rebels all the advantage they required for this purpose, and which they SCIENTIFICALLY ACCOMPLISHED for their cause, to our great injury. My LETTER OF 31 MAY, 1861, would have prevented this, and my COMMENT, as hereafter will be read with deliberation, as published in the *National Republican*, on May 27, 1862, and fully carries out its result, to the present time, which I say could have been ENTIRELY AVOIDED, by which our Nation are very heavy and serious sufferers, while our NATIONALITY for STRENGTH and FAME is SHAKEN. Such never was expected from one in whom PROVIDENCE had CROWNED with so many BRILLIANT VICTORIOUS BATTLES AND LAURELS, to DESERT his POST in TIME of NEED, as but any clever military engineer, even an ordinary-sighted General would have seen to it in its early undertaking, and applied means to have prevented our foes from accomplishing their purposes. **THE ERROR**—FOR WE MUST TERM IT SO—is UNPARDONABLE. Thus we are compelled to a renewal over the same ground for BATTLING FOR OUR UNION AND CONSTITUTION with a new call of about SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN, with nearly a year's loss of time, in which no good has been accomplished as yet. *That we might say, or we should have been able to say*, we see the FINALE OF THIS AMERICAN REBELLION. I DO NOT SEE IT NOW, although were near seeing it when within FIVE MILES from RICHMOND. I believe now only LEGISLATIVE DEBATE and CONGRESSIONAL HARMONY will accomplish the great desire. Furthermore, if our TWENTY MILLIONS, as it is called, that we have of PEOPLE, were opposed to my views, alleging that from circumstances, or the want of anything, or otherwise; that if THOSE IN COMMAND for

*the American Union cause* had the true and sincere determination at heart in the *vigorously* prosecuting of this WAR to a speedy FINALE, they could and would have *engineered* very different with our NAVY and ARMIES, which VIES with the WORLD, and of our *new sciences* brought to bear, and of our innumerable resources, COULD have CAPTURED and taken such *one-horse cities* as CHARLESTON, SAVANNAH, or RICHMOND. Therefore I say the THEN Northern FALSE American Democracy, as Southern traitors, sympathizers, and many in ARMS, never intended to subjugate the South for the WRONGS on our BUNTING FLAG, STAR OF THE WEST, FORT SUMPTER, TREASON, and PIRACY, as it is understood by the just, true-sense reading of the words, as is laid down in our catechism in the CONSTITUTION, nor is it for the NIGGER, but is PARTYISM, to control the balance of power, and by which to have gained time for the intention of remodeling the Constitution of the United States for the whole Union, for now it is a PARALYZED PARTY without power for the want of the other part of the same party, our, or my principle, OLD-LINE WHIG, is for the SACRED UNION as it was, but *without extension of slavery* in a *Republican Democratic Government*, and on no terms of compromise now to that end, which is HUMANITY, PHILANTHROPY, and no MONEY in our pockets. But at what an awful sacrifice of life have they, to advance their ends aimed at, brought us into! Leaving *green-backs* out of the question, it was WHOLE HOG OR DIE—LOCOFOCO rule or ruin political party doctrine, in secret combination, well weighed and by timely understanding, to accomplish their PURPOSE, on which further light may hereafter develop itself. To ME, the different bearings of this matter for debate can be no more disguised, but as hence ONWARD the whole nation will be in for ONE WAR OF ONE UNION to a speedy and BRILLIANT ACHIEVED END, and such will be accomplished, as was in the days of 1776, for if there is a WILL, there is a WAY.

With the utmost veneration and respect to the past *bravest of the brave of Generals*, although still living, which life and health I pray for he may enjoy yet for many years to come, that if I ERR, OR THEY HAVE ERRED, that the same is only from the heart, and from no other cause, that this is thus our present condition.

In conclusion say, may HOPE, FAITH, and CHARITY be extended over all those that this article may pinch too tight; if treason in any such breathes or existed in their hearts, that I hope hereafter that but one only LOYAL AMERICAN SENTIMENT AND ACTION will be pursued to a speedy termination of our domestic, large-family quarrel.

ROWLAND CROMELIEN.

---

(A.)

*From the National Republican, Washington, April 25, 1862.*

HONOR AND REWARD THOSE WHERE MERIT IS DUE, is a just and true principle; the old adage of saying is, after the horse is stolen from your stable, that then you will lock it more secure, is very appropriate to the case just brought to light; for after a lapse of eleven months, to the cost of our nation of millions of dollars, then is R. CROMELIEN's ideas, as addressed by him to General Winfield Scott for Government benefits, in using Bales of Cotton compressed for the rendering of vessels Bomb proof, brought out for test and security, which letter will be published hereafter with comments. The same is now introduced on board Steamer VANDERBILT, at Fortress Monroe, as aid to the MONITOR. I find, in conversation, that the adviser of the above method is the same personage that is now before Congress with an entire new invaluable system for the construction of RAILROADS, PATENTED. Having interrogated

him fully on claims for such, say, as a Citizen, he should have proper attention, as its success cannot fail, when tested, for the benefit of mankind. His models are yet to be seen at the Capitol, in the old Hall of the House of Representatives. All interested should examine the same.

T. H. MERRILL,  
*Civil Engineer.*

(B.)

PHILADELPHIA, May 31, 1861.

GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT,

*Esteemed Sir:* During our unfortunate state of National domestic troubles, ideas, that might prove valuable from any of our loyal Union men, may be of service; and as one of such, allow me to take the liberty to address you, by advancing my plans, to fully repel the fire off from land on a Frigate or Sloop of War—such as are carrying a Columbiad of large calibre or more guns.

To say, leaving any of our ports for such anticipated object, have one or two hundred bales of Cotton, well repressed, on deck, and when within five miles of a rebel battery, come to anchor, and deposit each bale of cotton in a formed Bar Iron framed crib, the whole length of the vessel, from water line to quarter deck, say, two tiers high, against which the enemy might fire to no injury on us. By such, our vessels could run up near to such batteries, or say, within a mile or two, with perfect security, and firing away on such battery. Half an hour of such an engagement would silence it, and our vessel, bomb cotton proof, against them, two or three of our well-directed shots would disperse them like birds on a prairie. To place, construct, and shape said bars of iron, for the purpose of holding said bales of cotton, have them shaped from above water-line, as by drawing herewith exhibited, each piece of iron to be about six feet long, secured by nuts and bolts to the outside of the vessel, above and below the port-holes. These irons are really brackets, sustaining therein the bale of cotton; and in case against a fire, a hose at command would extinguish it at once; this, however, would be unlikely to happen, as the engagement would be short; and if the iron could be broken, *very unlikely*, or the bale of cotton drop in the water, it would not be lost to consumption. The ballast can be shifted when getting ready, and placing the cotton on the side, so as to be in trim; the iron bracket sustains the bale of cotton in the centre of it—it need not be in extraordinary tight—and should a ball hit the bale of cotton, its force would be allayed or spent ere penetrating it.

In all of this plan of ideas, I am confident it would prove invaluable, especially at the present time, when it becomes necessary to enter rivers and bays in possession of our foes.

Subscribing myself,

Your very humble servant,  
R. CROMELIEN.

### COMMENTS ON THE WAR.

If the GENERAL-IN-CHIEF, commanding then the United States Army, and in communication with the Secretary of the Navy, had advanced my suggestions on its receipt at his hands, or by consulting with scientific Engineers and myself, the following good result would have proven:

1st. THAT VIRGINIA'S SACRED SOIL would not have been the general Battle-ground, or have had it invaded by armies; nor could it, or would

it have Sesesched out of the Union, as we could have controlled it by our Army, up to and in Richmond, retaken or RECAPTURED THE NAVY YARD AT GOSPORT, NORFOLK, &c., &c., to have been done immediately after the surrender of FORT SUMPTER, as they were then unprepared, as was the case in MARYLAND.

2d. THE VALUABLE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND MEN in arms already lost and crippled, including those now on the verge to be sacrificed, say both sides, is too serious a meditation for reflection and of contemplation, it resting upon the RESPONSIBILITY OF OUR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS for the LACK OF JUDGMENT AND PROMPTNESS, thus it would have followed that the present war would have been driven and confined to the Gulf States, where the chastisement properly belongs.

3d. TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, and it is a low estimate, would have been saved to the Union, and its blood, in having avoided our troubles in SOUTHERN VIRGINIA, for maintaining our army in and around it the past Nine Months with doing but little good, and from the reduced rates of all river freights paid, then not having to contend with a BLOCKADE OF THE POTOMAC AND BAYS, FUEL AT HALF PRICE, and PROVISIONS FOR GOVERNMENT USE; Citizens, Military, and Strangers to feed—which, put at 300,000 men, as one-fifth less than they have to pay, nor our NAVAL VESSELS OF FORTRESS MONROE, or our NATIONAL ARMORY AT HARPER'S FERRY DESTROYED.

4th. THE SPECULATION OR PECULATION of buying up all the old EASTERN VESSELS to destroy the same for no sensible good, AS FOR A STONE BLOCKADE, when they could have been converted to the system as by me recommended—of which, then, we would have had enough VESSELS, AND PLACED ARMAMENT on them, with our other FIRST CLASS VESSELS of war, to have protected fully all our harbors, bays and rivers; the old vessels to have been dismantled off the harbors, replaced across deck by circular Iron frames over the length of the vessel at suitable distances apart, and have covered such with three-inch iron plates—thus making each vessel a PERFECT BATTERY FORTIFICATION, BOMB COTTON PROOF, with an iron poop deck from stem to stern, ANCHORED. A small screw-propelling steam engine might also have been connected to each vessel for available purposes.

5th. TO ME THIS SIGHT WAS self evident, when I addressed my letter; and if it had been conducted as described, I believe this disastrous war would by now have been terminated, with or without all the other new modern science brought to bear for destruction. A great lack of good engineering is manifest, when we look back to the past; but it is to be hoped for to do better for the future, otherwise I may have much more to say on this subject, for which inference my CABINET LETTERS will answer. "IN TIME OF NEED, TO DO THE DEED, IS TO BE PROMPT."

R. CROMELIEN.

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1862.

N. B.—This pamphlet will soon be reissued with about forty additional interesting letters by me to this and the past Administration, as also my PRAYER and PETITION to CONGRESS on the PACIFIC RAILROAD, with details and my CENSURE. To finale my correspondence with the Crown heads of GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, RUSSIA, and CHINA.

The AMERICAN REVOLUTION is now only beginning to be hoped for soon to end in a GRAND REUNION of the WHOLE.

R. C.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, August 30, 1862.













LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 011 933 391 A